

**Minutes of the SC Commission on Higher Education  
Ad Hoc Subcommittee on the Public Agenda  
December 1, 2016  
9:30 a.m.**

Subcommittee Members Present

Ms. Allison Dean Love, Chair  
Dr. Jennifer Settlemyer  
Adm. Charles Munns

Staff Present

Dr. John Lane  
Dr. Tom Layzell (phone)  
Ms. Tanya Rogers  
Dr. Karen Woodfaulk  
Dr. Erica Von Nessen  
Dr. Kimberly Walker

Guest

Ms. Kayleigh Hall, USC

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chair Love called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. She welcomed Dr. John Lane to the meeting and thanked him for staff support. She began the meeting by reading the General Assembly's mission for the Commission on Higher Education.

**2. Approval of November 3, 2016 Minutes**

With no quorum convened, approval of the minutes, the lone action item, was postponed.

**3. Chair's Report**

Chair Love stated that she had an excellent discussion with Dr. Fred Carter, President of Francis Marion University. Dr. Carter provided input on communication with the college presidents and asked questions about the committee's process of developing the public agenda. Chair Love also shared information about the meetings planned with several key stakeholders to discuss the public agenda. On Monday, December 5, 2016 she has a meeting scheduled with Ms. Cheryl Stanton of the SC Department of Employment Workforce. In addition, she has a meeting scheduled with Representative Rita Allison, Chairman, House Education and Public Works Committee. In addition, she will continue to attempt to finalize a meeting with Education Superintendent Molly Spearman.

After discussion about the progress made with stakeholders, Chair Love asked Dr. Layzell to lead the subcommittee in a discussion regarding the educational attainment rate; specifically, deliberation about the feasibility of Lumina's goal of 60% by 2025 for South Carolina.

**4. Discussion of Baseline Document and Next Steps**

Chair Love asked Commissioner Munns to review his comments for the 2009 Higher Education Study Committee Executive Summary document. Before reviewing his comments, Commissioner Munns noted that clarity about what the public agenda should be is important. He expressed that he believes the public agenda should be a short, impactful document which outlines the needs for higher education, explains the significance of an educational attainment goal, and provides the different elements that would involve the attainment of the goal, with the suggestion that the public agenda could be approximately two pages in length. He also stated that the content of the 2009 document seems like a strategic plan for the CHE which would fall underneath the public agenda. He then invited discussion for clarification.

Dr. Layzell noted the public agenda will be a set of goals and strategies that will provide a foundation to help establish the higher education agenda for the state. The most important component to discuss is the educational attainment goal, which should be both general and also in alignment with workforce development. Goals should be set so they are attainable within a reasonable time frame, such as the next five years. He continued, noting CHE should have some identification of strategy, but without an inundating amount of detail. Better alignment is needed of the projections and the goals. The plan of action going forward should be to create strategies that will increase education attainment in South Carolina in general.

Dr. Layzell recommended renaming the objectives “strategies.” He stressed that those are not needed in the public agenda. The purpose of today’s meeting is to review the comments of the HESC report, understand those comments/concerns, and prepare a draft.

He continued, noting the 2009 HESC report was well-done, thoroughly vetted, and that continuing to build on it as a foundation is itself good strategy.

Commissioner Munns shared with the subcommittee that he offered a possible introduction for the public agenda. Both Commissioner Munns and Chair Love reviewed their comments in the Workforce Competition in a Global Knowledge Economy (WCGKE) content of the 2009 document.

During discussion, Commissioner Munns expressed that the end product will be twofold: the public agenda and a product that specifies how the CHE will achieve the goals set forth in the public agenda, such as an action plan.

Chair Love suggested incorporating information from both WCGKE and the Competing Through Knowledge study in the public agenda. She also suggested the Darla Moore School of Business Study.

Dr. Erica Von Nessen referred to a study from the Department of Employment Workforce which includes a finding that South Carolina has an overeducated population. The study compared the job listings with degree production and stated that most of the jobs only needed a high school diploma. She will forward that study to the subcommittee.

## **5. Timeline Discussion**

Chair Love stated that she would like to have comments from other subcommittee members by the end of next week. The comments should be submitted using OneDrive. She expects staff to have a completed draft by December 20. Commissioner Munns expressed that the draft should be written even if no one else provides comments and meeting in January should be contingent upon a draft to discuss.

## **6. General Discussion**

Chair Love informed the subcommittee that with help from Dr. Fred Carter, Dr. Tom Layzell, and guidance from Chairman Hofferth, she drafted a letter to distribute to the college presidents with the intent of keeping them apprised of progress on the public agenda, and to invite their input. She noted that beginning in January she anticipates the involvement of more stakeholders, including the Presidents, K-12, business, media, and more, via in-person meetings

and video- or teleconferencing. She added that eventually the subcommittee should have a luncheon with the sector presidents.

## **7. Other Business**

The approval of the November 3, 2016 meeting minutes will be deferred to the proposed January 5, 2017 meeting.

## **8. Adjournment**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.